

Laws, Regulations &

Pollution Prev

Managing Hazardous Waste

*Preventing environmental
damage from hazardous
waste, and restoring
contaminated sites for
all Californians.*

Public Involvement

Cleanup

Science & Tech



State of
California



Department of Toxic
Substances Control

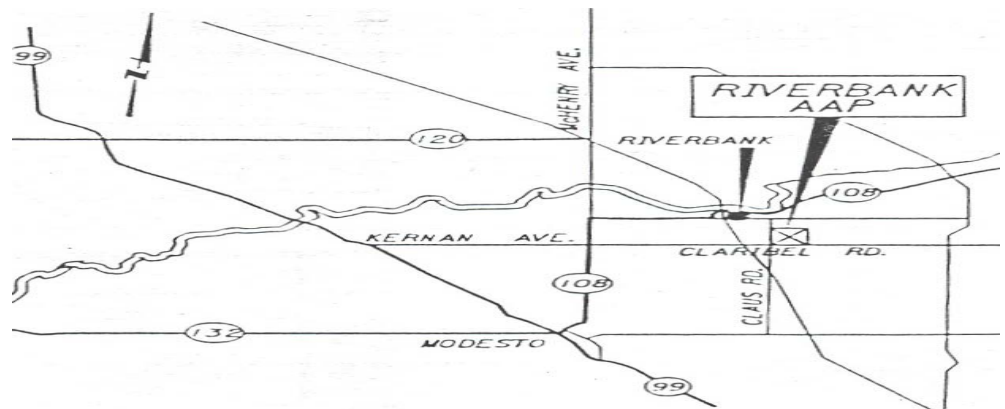
Public Involvement

Fact Sheet, January 2006

Public Comment Period on the Permit Renewal for the Riverbank Army Ammunition Plant

The Draft Hazardous waste Facility Permit Renewal (Draft Permit) for the Riverbank Army Ammunition Plant (Riverbank) is available for public review and comment. The Draft Permit would continue to allow hazardous waste storage and treatment activities at the 173-acre site located at 5300 Claus Road, Riverbank, California. Riverbank is owned by the United States Department of the Army and operated by NI Industries, Incorporated.

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) is providing this fact sheet to describe the Draft Permit, site background, the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and inform the community on how they can be involved in the process. The Draft Permit and CEQA documents are available for your review at the information repositories listed on page 3 of this fact sheet. If you have questions about this site, please contact Mr. John Papathakis, DTSC Project Manager at (916) 255-3579. Additional contact information is provided on Page 3.



Public Comment Period and Hearing Request

The public is invited to comment on the Draft Permit and proposed California Environmental Quality Act Negative Declaration (Neg. Dec) during the 45-day Public Comment Period which begins on Wednesday, January 18, 2006 and ends on Friday, March 3, 2006.

All written comments must be postmarked or emailed no later than 5:00 p.m. on Friday, March 3, 2006. Please send your comments to: **Department of Toxic Substances Control, Mr. John Papathakis, Project Manager, 8800 Cal Center Drive, Sacramento, CA 95826** or via email at jpapatha@dtsc.ca.gov

All comments will be considered before a final determination to renew the permit is made. The permit renewal, CEQA Neg. Dec. and other site documents are available at the information repositories listed on the back of this fact sheet.

A public hearing will be considered if one is requested. Please submit your written request for a public hearing by March 3, 2006, including the issues to be raised, to Ms. Michelle Trotter, Public Participation Specialist, 8800 Cal Center Drive, Sacramento, CA 95826 or via email at mtrotter@dtsc.ca.gov



Background / Hazardous Waste Activities

The Riverbank plant has been in operation since 1943. DTSC issued its first hazardous waste facility permit to Riverbank in 1985, which allowed hazardous waste storage and treatment activities at the site. DTSC issued a permit renewal in 1995. The Draft Permit is a renewal of the 1995 permit.

Riverbank is a government owned facility operated by NI Industries, Incorporated. Riverbank produces military ammunition projectiles. Riverbank only manufactures projectiles and does not assemble finished ammunition or handle explosives associated with finished ammunition. In the process of manufacturing projectiles, Riverbank generates waste solvents, chemicals, cleaning agents, oil and metals. Wastes are stored in tanks and containers such as 55-gallon drums and steel bins. Wastes are treated by pH adjustment, sludge thickening, precipitation and filtration.

The following are the hazardous waste storage and treatment operations previously permitted to operate at Riverbank, and would be authorized by this permit renewal if approved:

- Industrial Wastewater Treatment Plant (IWTP)- The IWTP treats all of the industrial waste water generated at Riverbank.
- Reactor Clarifier - This unit is part of the IWTP. This unit combines mixing and sludge thickening in a single reactor vessel. It is used as a primary treatment system for precipitation of heavy metals.
- Equipment Wash Facility - This unit is used to decontaminate any equipment, empty drums or containers that contain wastes that are treatable at the IWTP.
- Drum Storage Area - This area is 100 feet by 50 feet, with a concrete slab and it is surrounded by a chain link fence and covered by a metal roof. The drum storage area contains segregated storage areas for: flammable material, caustics and acids.
- Used Oil Storage Facility - This area consists of a 6,000 gallon steel used oil tank surrounded by a secondary containment area.

- Chromium Reduction Unit - This process is performed in a 1,200 gallon tank, where sulfuric acid is added to lower the pH and sodium additive is added to convert the hexavalent chromium to trivalent chromium.
- Hazardous Waste Accumulation Area (HWAA)- Hazardous waste is stored in this area for up to 90 days.
- Paint Sludge Dewatering Unit - Water and paint sludge accumulate in the paint booth until it has reached 90% capacity and then they are sent to the HWAA.

Compliance History

DTSC inspects the permitted hazardous waste units at the Riverbank facility for compliance with state laws and regulations.

The facility has been inspected by DTSC's Statewide Compliance Division and to date DTSC has found only minor violations.

The minor violations involved improper labeling of drums and tanks, and small amounts of moisture observed in various locations on the site. All violations were corrected by Riverbank during the individual inspections.

No Changes in Permit Renewal

The permit renewal application does not propose structural changes to the facility, changes in the type of waste stored, or changes in the authorized storage capacities for the permitted units. The renewal of the permit would allow the current practice of collecting and storing waste to continue.

Permit Renewal Process

The current Hazardous Waste Storage Permit expired in July 2005. The U.S. Army and NI Industries submitted a renewal permit application in November 2004 and the facility may continue operating under the current permit while the renewal application is pending.

The California Code of Regulations, title 22, section 66271.7 requires a facility to obtain a renewal of its

permit to continue operations. This proposed renewal would be effective for ten years if approved.

DTSC reviews an application for a permit renewal through four main steps:

1. DTSC reviews the permit renewal application for technical completeness. If necessary, DTSC issues A Notice of Deficiency requiring additional information or changes to the existing information in the application.
2. DTSC prepares a draft permit or permit denial based on whether the facility's application meets the regulatory standards.
3. DTSC solicits and receives comments from the public during a formal public comment period of at least 45 days.
4. After considering and responding to all comments received from the public, DTSC makes a decision to issue, issue with changes, or deny the permit.

California Environmental Quality Act

Under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), DTSC is responsible for reviewing the potential health and environmental risks that may be associated with approving a project, such as a permit renewal. DTSC has prepared an Initial Study to evaluate the environmental impacts of this permit renewal. DTSC has determined that there is no significant impact to the environment based on the results of the Initial Study. DTSC has prepared a Negative Declaration to document the results. The Initial Study and the CEQA Negative Declaration are available for review in the information repository listed on this page.

Public Involvement

DTSC invites the public to review and submit comments on the Draft Permit Renewal and on the CEQA Negative Declaration during the 45-day comment period that ends on March 3, 2006.

Please send your written comments to:

Mr.. John Papathakis
DTSC Project Manager
8800 Cal Center Drive
Sacramento, CA 95826

or via email to jpapatha@dtsc.ca.gov

For More Information

If you would like more information about the site, please contact:

Mr.. John Papathakis
DTSC Project Manager
(916) 255-3579
jpapatha@dtsc.ca.gov

For public involvement questions, please contact:

Ms. Michelle Trotter
DTSC Public Participation Specialist
(916) 255-6441
mtrotter@dtsc.ca.gov

For media questions, please contact:

Ms. Carol Singleton
DTSC Public Information Officer
(916) 255-6578
csinglet@dtsc.ca.gov

Information Repository Locations

The Draft Permit and other site related documents are available for public review at the information repository listed below. The entire administrative record is located at the DTSC Office listed below. The administrative record includes copies of the permit application, the CEQA Negative Declaration, and other site related documents:

Riverbank Public Library

3442 Sante Fe
Riverbank, California 95367
(209) 869-7008

Department of Toxic Substances Control File Room

8800 Cal Center Drive
Sacramento, California 95826
Contact: Bobbi Jensen (916) 255-3779 for an appointment

For More Information access DTSC's website at www.dtsc.ca.gov

Anuncio

Si prefiere hablar con alguien en español acerca de ésta información, favor de llamar a Sr. Jesus Cruz, Departamento de Control de Substancias Tóxicas. El número de teléfono es (916) 255-3315.

Cut out and mail

ARE YOU ON DTSC's MAILING LIST?

If you would like to be on the Riverbank mailing list, fill out the information below and mail back to:

Please print name and address clearly.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ E-mail: _____

Comment: _____

☐ Please take me off the mailing list.

Note: While the mailing list is solely for DTSC use, the list is considered a public record.

Notice to Hearing Impaired

You can obtain additional information by using the California State Relay Service at: 1-888-877-5378.
Ask them to contact Ms. Michelle Trotter 916-255-6441.

Michelle A. Trotter
Public Participation Specialist
California Environmental Protection Agency
Department of Toxic Substances Control
8800 Cal Center Drive
Sacramento, CA 95826

*Important information regarding Permit Renewal
for Riverbank Army Ammunition Plant*